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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 28 July 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Singapore to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations of the States members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a declaration on the South China Sea issued by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers at Manila on 22 July 1992.

I should be grateful if you could arrange to have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 69 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) CHEW Tai Soo

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ANNEX

ASEAN declaration on the South China Sea
issued at Manila on 22 July 1992

We, the Foreign Ministers of the member countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations,

Recalling the historic, cultural and social ties that bind our peoples as States adjacent to the South China Sea,

Wishing to promote the spirit of kinship, friendship and harmony among our peoples who share similar Asian traditions and heritage,

Desirous of further promoting conditions essential to greater economic cooperation and growth,

Recognizing that we are bound by similar ideals of mutual respect, freedom, sovereignty and mutuality of interests,

Recognizing that South China Sea issues involve sensitive questions of sovereignty and jurisdiction of the parties directly concerned,

Conscious that any adverse developments in the South China Sea directly affect peace and stability in the region,

Hereby -

1. Emphasize the necessity to resolve all sovereignty and jurisdictional issues pertaining to the South China Sea by peaceful means, without resort to force;

2. Urge all parties concerned to exercise restraint with the view to creating a positive climate for the eventual resolution of all disputes;

3. Resolve, without prejudicing the sovereignty and jurisdiction of countries having direct interests in the area, to explore the possibility of cooperation in the South China Sea relating to the safety of maritime navigation and communication, protection against pollution of the marine environment, coordination of search and rescue operations, efforts towards combating piracy and armed robbery as well as collaboration in the campaign against illicit trafficking in drugs;

4. Commend all parties concerned to apply the principles contained in the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in South-East Asia as the basis for establishing a code of international conduct over the South China Sea;

5. Invite all parties concerned to subscribe to this declaration of principles.

(Signed) HRH Prince Mohamed BOLKIAH
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Brunei Darussalam

(Signed) Raul S. MANGLAPUS
Secretary of Foreign Affairs
Republic of the Philippines

(Signed) Ali ALATAS
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Indonesia

(Signed) WONG Kan Seng
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Singapore

(Signed) Datuk Abdullah Bin Haji Ahmad BADAWI
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Malaysia

(Signed) Arsa SARASIN
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Kingdom of Thailand